



IFW RCE
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PTO/SB/30 (09-03)

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**Request
for
Continued Examination (RCE)
Transmittal**

Address to:
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P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	10/074,377
Filing Date	February 11, 2002
First Named Inventor	Masafumi Okuma, et al.
Art Unit	2839
Examiner Name	Chandrika Prasad
Attorney Docket Number	1-15682

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on _____

ii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)

iv. ☐ Other _____

2. **Miscellaneous**

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fees**

- The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 13-1816 Marshall & Melhorn, LLC

i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)

ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 595.00 enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Donald A. Schurr	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	34,247
Signature		Date	July 23, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Heidi M. May	Date	July 23, 2004
Signature			

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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on July 23, 2004

Heidi M. May
(Name)

Heidi M. May
(Signature)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. :	10/074,377	Confirmation No. :	5528
Applicant :	MASAFUMI OKUMA, et al.		
Filed :	February 11, 2002	Docket No. :	1-15682
TC/A.U. :	2839	Customer No. :	001678
Examiner :	CHANDRIKA PRASAD		

July 23, 2004

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Commissioner for Patents
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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Honorable Sir:

Pursuant to a telephone interview with Examiner Prasad on Friday, July 23, 2004,
Applicants hereby present this preliminary amendment in conjunction with a concurrently filed
Request for Continued Examination (RCE). The Office Action has a reply due date of May 23,
2004, for which a two month extension of time is requested to file a response by July 23, 2004.
A separate Petition for Extension Of Time Under 37 CFR § 1.136(a) is included.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2
of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.